

ZENAS KING.

MARCH 23, 1860.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HUTCHINS, from the Committee on Claims, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Claims, to whom was referred the memorial of Zenas King, "praying for compensation for his services in aiding the marshal to enforce the neutrality laws on the Canada line," having had the same under consideration, would report:

That the petitioner in the year 1838, at the commencement of the disturbances on the Canadian frontier, was employed as a "night-watch and temporary deputy inspector" in aid of the collector of customs in the discharge of his ordinary duties. During this employment the petitioner frequently left his residence to assist the marshal and other public officers at various places near the Canada line, in the enforcement of the neutrality laws. For this service the petitioner alleges he never received adequate compensation, though paid at the time for services as "temporary deputy inspector," and "fees as a witness for attending the United States district court."

This claim was first presented to the 29th Congress at its first session, since which time there have been three adverse reports thereon. It might be sufficient for your committee to say that they would be unwilling to reverse the uniform decisions made in any particular case without some good and substantial reason therefor; for instance, the filing of additional testimony material to the case; but in this instance, after looking into the merits of the claim, they concur fully in the adverse reports already made, and report back the case with the recommendation that the prayer of the memorial be not granted.

